

Sinclair Broadcasting's dictate forcing their stations to show an anti-Kerry "documentary" just days before the election demonstrates the danger to our democracy that has come from allowing media to become so concentrated in the hands of a few owners. It both violates our democratic principles and our election campaign laws and savages our belief in competition.

This is clear use of the public airwaves for what is not in the public interest: a desperate attempt to skew public opinion with a clear political agenda. The debates were an excellent example of what media can contribute to the political process by presenting substance in a fair, balanced and non-partisan way.

Public airwaves are a public trust, not a perk of partisan politics. The FCC should do the right thing and stop this travesty unless it wants to require Sinclair to follow its "documentary" with a airing of Fahrenheit 9/11. The FCC is required to protect the public interest, not to be complicit in its subversion.

We need to go back to a stricter anti-trust system where community broadcasting reflects the community. The anti-democratic "relaxing" of rules is leading toward totalitarianism in news with far away moguls dictating content and point of view. Licence renewals should require stations to prove that they deserve to use these free airwaves by serving the interests of all citizens, not just a politically privileged segment.

We need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Thank you